

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

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DEPT. FOR FBO-STANGE, HELLMAN
DEPT. FOR A/SY/OPS/FO
LISBON FOR ADMIN
FRANKFURT FOR RSS
FROM RSO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ASEC, ABLD, AFSP
SUBJECT: NEW CHANCERY LISBON

FOLLOWING ARE OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF A
SECURITY NATURE ON TWO OF THE PROPOSED SITES REVIEWED
BY MR. STANGE AND MR. HELLMAN OF FBO, THE ADMINISTRATIVE
OFFICER OF AMEMBASSY LISBON AND THE RSO.

1. 1663 AVENIDA JOSE MALHOA - BANCO ATLANTICO.

THE CONSTRUCTION SITE OF THIS BUILDING IS IN AN
ACCEPTABLE LOCATION INSOFAR AS THE NEIGHBORHOOD IS
COMPOSED PRIMARILY OF APARTMENT AND OFFICE BUILDINGS OF
THE SAME OVERALL HIGH STANDARD, SEVERAL OF WHICH ARE
ALSO UNDER CONSTRUCTION. THE AREA IMMEDIATELY TO THE
REAR OF THE PROPOSED BUILDING IS A PROPOSED "GREEN ZONE"
OF TWO OR THREE ACRES UPON WHICH NOTHING WILL BE BUILT.
THE FRONT OF THE BUILDING WILL BE ONLY A FEW FEET OFF A
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MAIN THOROUGHFARE WITH PEDESTRIAN ACCESS DIRECTLY INTO
THE BUILDING FROM THE SIDEWALK. THIS PROVIDES AN EASY
TARGET FOR PASSENGERS IN A MOVING VEHICLE TO SPRAY THE
FRONT OF THE BUILDING WITH AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE AND
ALSO EASE OF ACCESS BY DEMONSTRATORS INTENT UPON DESTROY-
ING PROPERTY.

THE PLANNED FACADE OF THE BUILDING IS COMPOSED OF LIGHT-WEIGHT METAL FRAMES HOLDING GLASS PANELS WHICH EXTEND FROM FLOOR TO CEILING; THIS, AGAIN, IS AN EASY TARGET FOR THE ROCKS AND BOTTLES OF DEMONSTRATORS OR THE BULLETS OF TERRORISTS. THE EFFECT OF A BOMB EXPLOSION IN, OR EVEN NEAR, THE BUILDING COULD HAVE DISASTROUS EFFECTS ON EMPLOYEES IN THE BUILDING.

THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE BUILDING IS PLANNED TO BE WALLED ON ALL SIDES BY GLASS; THIS ENTIRE AREA WOULD HAVE TO BE CHANGED IN ORDER TO PROVIDE A SECURE ENVIRONMENT FOR EMBASSY PERSONNEL LOCATED THERE.

2. 1682 AVENIDA JOSE MALHOA - UAD.

THIS BUILDING IS LOCATED JUST DOWN THE STREET FROM THE ONE LISTED ABOVE AND IS VIRTUALLY IDENTICAL TO IT WITH REGARD TO SECURITY DEFICIENCIES. THIS PARTICULAR BUILDING ALSO HAS A TOTAL OF SEVEN PEDESTRIAN ENTRIES BREACHING THE PERIMETER WALL ON TWO DIFFERENT LEVELS (THE BUILDING WAS DESIGNED TO HOUSE SEVERAL SHOPS OR BOUTIQUES). A PEDESTRIAN RAMP, OR WALKWAY, HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO CONNECT THE TWO LEVELS AND AN ADJACENT BUILDING. THE CONTRACTORS ON THIS PROJECT HAVE INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE IS ENOUGH DESIGN FLEXIBILITY IN THIS BUILDING TO BRICK UP THE WINDOWS ON THE FIRST 3 FLOORS, REMOVE THE PEDESTRIAN RAMP

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AND SEAL OFF ALL BUT THOSE DOORS WHICH THE EMBASSY CONSIDERS NECESSARY TO RETAIN. ALL EXTERIOR ALTERATIONS TO THE BUILDING, WHICH AFFECT THE DESIGN, MUST BE APPROVED BY A MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE. SHOULD THESE CONDITIONS BE MET, SHOULD NOTHING BETTER BECOME AVAILABLE AND SHOULD THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE EMBASSY TO MOVE BE PRESSING ENOUGH THEN THIS BUILDING WOULD PROBABLY BE ADEQUATE WITH MAJOR DRAWBACKS CONSISTING OF IMMEDIATE FRONTAGE ON THE STREET AND THE UPPER FLOORS BEING MOSTLY GLASS-FRONTED. EATON

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